

*Second Battalion*

The Second Battalion and attached units continued the training under the British 13th Gloucester instruction in bayonet, musketry and gas, one hour each morning being devoted to each phase of this work. The afternoons were spent in marches and open order exercises by platoons. No engineering instruction was attempted during this period as neither equipment nor materials were to be had for doing any work.

On July 4th exercises were stopped at noon and a half holiday declared.

Captain Frederick D. Stafford, Adjutant 2nd Battalion, returned to duty from duty as Acting Adjutant 1st Battalion on July 3rd and Captain Sullivan returned to Company E.

JULY 6TH TO JULY 9TH—FAIR WEATHER EXCEPT SHOWERS ON THE 8TH

On July 6th the two battalions changed stations and duties.

*First Battalion*

The First Battalion and attached pioneer platoons struck camp on the morning of July 6th and moved in the afternoon by road march to the billets occupied by the Second Battalion, the movement beginning at noon and being completed by 2:00 P. M. The remainder of the day was given up to getting settled.

July 7th being Sunday, there were no duties other than the usual guard and fatigue.

On July 8th and 9th the First Battalion carried out a schedule similar to that followed by the Second Battalion from July 2nd to the 5th with the addition of target practice. Use of a 30-yard range had been secured and the battalion fired the course.

*Second Battalion*

The Second Battalion, with attached pioneer platoons, continued the schedule of training on the morning of July 6th to include 11:00 A. M. when dinner was served.

At noon the battalion and attached pioneer platoons began the movement by companies to Oxelaere, the rendezvous point where the column was to move from at 1:00 P. M. The movement was delayed fifteen minutes to allow two batteries of 6" guns to pass the road forks. The column proceeded at 1:15 P. M. and arrived at the camp site, Terdegheem, at 2:40 P. M.

July 7th being Sunday, there were no duties other than the usual guard and fatigue.

On July 8th the battalion and attached platoons were engaged in erecting wire entanglements from P 11 c 4.0 to J 34 a 8.2. (See Plate V.) The work had been proportioned out to the units as a task for the day, but on account of shortage of wire and pickets no tasks were entirely completed and other work was engaged in during the afternoon. Knife rests were built by Company D and the 117th pioneer platoon and gravel was hauled to the observation posts, while one platoon fired on the 100-yard range at P 9 a.

Company E, less three platoons, with the 118th Pioneer Platoon, thinned the hedges in front of the trenches to obtain a better field of fire. Three platoons fired on the 100-yard range at P 9 a and were until 8:30 P. M. completing the shooting.

Company F, less one platoon which fired on the range, built two large knife rests and repaired old wire entanglements in the line.

On July 9th sufficient material was available and again the work was proportioned out to the units with the northern extremity at J 21 a 4.9, which gave each company approximately 1000 yards of double apron and 1000 yards of low wire entanglements to complete. Each pioneer platoon was given about 250 yards. When complete the system comprised two belts of double apron wire with either one or two belts of low wire between, depending upon whether the old line had a belt of low wire. Company E completed its task by 4:00 P. M., Company D about 5:00 P. M., but Company F, which had traveled farther to its work, still had much to do at 6:00 P. M. One platoon each from Company